

From: Gavin Treadgold
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/9/01 8:00pm
Subject: Proposed MSFT Settlement

I am writing this as a concerned non-US citizen. I know my opinion probably doesn't count for much, but I feel obliged to write anyway.

The proposed settlement deal is hardly just for the average citizen. By allowing Microsoft to provide software and hardware in the education market, it distinctly disadvantages one of the leading companies in that sector, Apple. The proposal is simply allowing Microsoft to purchase market share that will allow it to become even stronger. At a minimum for the education proposal to be acceptable, Microsoft should be required to front up the proposed settlement value in cash, and allow a non-partisan group to determine appropriate expenditure - after all, perhaps it could go towards more teachers to help the really disadvantaged.

I used to believe that the United States of America provided one of the fairest and most just countries in the world. Sadly, after recent events in the Microsoft antitrust trial, it is hard to justify this enthusiasm, and the only hope that remains is that the remaining states that haven't settled, and the European Union have more strength and determination to bring Microsoft to true justice for their anti-competitive behaviour.

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